

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF REGISTRATION
IN VETERINARY MEDICINE.

FOR THE YEAR 1909.



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MEMBERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN VETERINARY MEDICINE.

1909.

LANGDON FROTHINGHAM, M.D.V., <i>Chairman</i> ,	.	BOSTON.
ELMER W. BABSON, M.D.V., <i>Secretary</i> ,	.	GLOUCESTER.
THOMAS E. MALONEY, V.S.,	.	FALL RIVER.
GEORGE P. PENNIMAN, D.V.S.,	.	WORCESTER.
HENRY S. LEWIS, M.D.V.,	.	CHELSEA.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN VETERINARY MEDICINE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Dec. 15, 1909.

To His Excellency EBEN S. DRAPER, *Governor*.

SIR: In compliance with the requirements of chapter 249 of the Acts of 1903, the Board of Registration in veterinary Medicine submits its annual report for the fiscal year 1909.

The number of persons who have applied for registration during the year is 12, all of whom have been examined, and 1 who had filed his application in a previous year appeared for examination. The number of applicants on the rejected list who have been re-examined is 4, none of whom have been registered.

The whole number of individual examinations given this year is 16. The result is as follows:—

	Examined.	Registered.	Rejected.
July examination	14	9	5
November examination	3	—	3

Nine men have therefore been registered as a result of examination.

There have been 407 veterinarians registered to date.

The Board has held 6 meetings during the year, and 2 examinations.

During the year the Board has received complaints against 14 individuals for practising veterinary medicine illegally,

which, with former complaints against three other individuals, have been thoroughly investigated, with the following results : —

Complaints against 3 were found to be groundless, and 8 are still under investigation. Five individuals have been brought before courts and their cases disposed of as follows : 5 were found guilty ; of these, 3 appealed, 1 was placed on file and 1 paid a fine of \$50. A warrant has been issued for the arrest of the remaining individual, but has not been served, as he has left the Commonwealth.

In April and May a copy of the official list of registered veterinarians in the State of Massachusetts was sent to the clerks of the principal cities and towns of the Commonwealth, accompanied by the following information : “ The spaying of female dogs is a branch of veterinary medicine, and can be done legally only by registered veterinarians. The accompanying list gives the names of those whose certificates are acceptable in this Commonwealth. No other certificates are acceptable.”

A number of said clerks have signified their desire to assist the Board in regulating this work by accepting only the certificates of registered veterinarians ; but in order to avoid confliction of statutes, it is recommended that the words “ competent persons,” in section 130, chapter 102, Revised Laws, be changed to “ registered veterinarians,” so that this section shall read : “ The fee of every license shall be two dollars for a male dog and five dollars for a female dog, unless a certificate of a registered veterinarian who performed the operation has been filed with the city or town clerk that said female dog has been spayed and has thereby been deprived of the power of propagation, in which case the fee shall be two dollars.”

The receipts of the Board, which according to law have been paid into the treasury of the Commonwealth, have been as follows : —

Form C, fees at \$15,	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$225 00
Total,	.	.	.	.	.	.	<hr/>\$225 00

The expenses of the Board have been as follows : —

Salaries and traveling expenses of members,	.	.	\$689	95
Investigating complaints,	.	.	120	36
Clerical assistance,	.	.	87	10
Printing and postage,	.	.	84	52
Miscellaneous,	.	.	40	27
<hr/>				
Total,	.	.	\$1,022	20

In the Appendix to this report will be found a copy of the law under which the Board acts.

Respectfully submitted,

LANGDON FROTHINGHAM, *Chairman.*

ELMER W. BABSON, *Secretary.*

G. P. PENNIMAN.

HENRY S. LEWIS.

THOS. E. MALONEY.

APPENDIX.

LAW RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF VETERINARIANS.

CHAPTER 249, ACTS OF 1903.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHING A BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN VETERINARY MEDICINE.

[As amended in sections 1 and 4 by chapter 503 of the Acts of 1906, and in sections 8 and 9 by chapter 314 of the Acts of 1907.]

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint five veterinarians, residents of this Commonwealth and graduates of a school of veterinary medicine recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association, who shall constitute a board of registration in veterinary medicine. Their terms of office shall begin on the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and four, and they shall hold office, one for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years and one for five years, or until their successors are appointed; and the governor shall appoint annually thereafter, before the first day of December, beginning with the year nineteen hundred and four, one veterinarian, qualified as aforesaid, who shall hold office for five years from the first day of January next ensuing. Any member of said board may be removed from office for cause by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council. The members of the board shall each receive a salary of fifty dollars a year, and their necessary travelling and contingent expenses actually incurred in attending meetings of the board. The secretary shall receive an additional salary of three hundred and fifty dollars a year, and his necessary travelling and contingent expenses, not exceeding the sum of three hundred dollars, actually incurred in attending to the necessary work of the board. The said salary and expenses shall be paid out of the treasury of the Commonwealth.

SECTION 2. The members of said board shall meet on the second Tuesday of January in each year, at such time and place as they

shall determine, and shall immediately proceed to organize by electing a chairman and a secretary, who shall hold their respective offices for the term of one year. Said board shall hold regular meetings on the first Tuesday of March, July and November of each year, and such additional meetings at such times and places as they may determine. Said board may make by-laws and rules not inconsistent with law necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. Said board shall notify all persons practicing veterinary medicine in this Commonwealth, of the provisions of this act by publishing the same in one or more newspapers in this Commonwealth, and every such person who is a graduate of a recognized school of veterinary medicine, and also every person who has been a practitioner of veterinary medicine in this Commonwealth for a period of three years next prior to the passage of this act, shall, upon the payment of a fee of two dollars, be entitled to registration, and said board shall issue to him a certificate thereof signed by its chairman and secretary. Registration under the provisions of this section shall cease on the first day of September in the year nineteen hundred and four. All applications for registration under this act shall be made upon blanks furnished by the board, and shall be signed and sworn to by the applicant.

SECTION 4. Any person not entitled to registration as aforesaid who is twenty-one years of age shall, upon the payment of a fee of fifteen dollars, be entitled to examination, and if found qualified by the board shall be registered and shall receive a certificate of registration as provided in section three. Any person who fails to pass a satisfactory examination and is therefore refused registration may be re-examined at any regular meeting of the board within two years of the time of such refusal, without additional fee, and thereafter may be examined at any regular meeting upon the payment of a fee of fifteen dollars for each examination. The fees received for examination and registration of applicants before the board shall be paid monthly by the secretary of the board into the treasury of the Commonwealth. Said board, after a hearing, may by unanimous vote revoke any certificate issued by it and cancel the registration of any veterinarian who has been convicted of a felony or crime in the practice of his profession.

SECTION 5. Examinations shall be held at least twice annually, and shall be exclusively in writing, in English. There shall be suitable questions to test the requisite knowledge of the applicants in the following subjects:—Anatomy, surgery, physiology, animal parasites, obstetrics, pathology, bacteriology, diagnosis and practice, therapeutics and materia medica.

SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of said board to keep a register of all practitioners qualified under this act, which shall be open to public inspection, and to make an annual report to the governor.

SECTION 7. It shall be unlawful after the first day of September in the year nineteen hundred and four for any person to practice veterinary medicine, or any branch thereof, in this Commonwealth who does not hold a certificate issued by said board.

SECTION 8. Any person not registered as provided by this act who holds himself out as a practitioner of veterinary medicine, or practices, or attempts to practice veterinary medicine in any of its branches in this Commonwealth, shall for each offence be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION 9. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to prohibit advice or service, in a case of emergency, by a person not entitled to practice veterinary medicine under this act, nor to prohibit farmers from rendering services to their neighbors if they do not hold themselves out as veterinary practitioners under the provisions of this act, and the provisions of section nine of chapter seventy-six of the Revised Laws relating to the practice of medicine within the Commonwealth by physicians and surgeons shall, so far as they may be applicable, apply to the practice of veterinary medicine or any branch thereof by veterinarians.

SECTION 10. Except as otherwise provided herein this act shall take effect upon its passage.

CHAPTER 503, ACTS OF 1906.

SECTION 3. Said board shall investigate all complaints of the violation of the provisions of section eight of said chapter two hundred and forty-nine, and report the same to the proper prosecuting officers.

